

STATE OF DELAWARE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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Newsletter Article

March 2012

Ride Smart

Whether it is the warmer temperatures or soaring gas prices, motorcyclists have taken to the roads across Delaware. That is why OHS is reminding motorists to be alert for motorcycles and reminding motorcyclists to ride smart.

Be alert for motorcycles:

- Always look twice before turning into traffic.
- Be vigilant when changing lanes.
- Always follow the posted speed limits.
- Never drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

What does it mean to ride smart?

- Have the proper endorsement on your drivers' license.
- Know your bike and how it handles under different conditions.
- Wear all appropriate safety gear.
- Keep a safe distance from other vehicles.
- Be aware of blind spots.
- Use proper lane position.
- Be alert for debris, wet surfaces, and uneven pavement.

Beginning mid- March through the month of April, Delaware State Police plus 9 other municipal police agencies will be conducting motorcycle safety patrols. Police will be looking for the following unsafe behaviors:

- Exceeding the speed limit.
- Driving aggressively: running red lights and stop signs, unsafe lane changes, and failing to yield the right of way.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Ride Smart. Arrive Alive DE.

For more information about motorcycle safety and other traffic safety topics, go to www.ohs.delaware.gov.